

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MASERU 01523 150717Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
/064 W

-----038850 160449Z /15

R 141530Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8952
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MASERU 1523

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, LT

SUBJECT: RECONCILIATION MEETING

1. SUMMARY. THE PRIME MINISTER HELD A RECONCILIATION MEETING IN AN OPPOSITION STRONGHOLD ON JULY 1, 1978. THIS IS THE MOST RECENT IN A SERIES OF MEETINGS AROUND THE COUNTRY, WHICH ARE RECEIVING WIDE COVERAGE IN THE LOCAL MEDIA. END SUMMARY.

2. ON JULY 1, THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, G.P. RAMOREBOLI ADDRESSED A LARGE MEETING AT QHOLAQHOE, THE STRONGHOLD OF THE MAKHOAKHOA CLAN WHICH HAS BEEN A STRONG BACKER OF THE OPPOSITION BASOTHO LAND CONGRESS PARTY (BCP). THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, WHO IS A BCP MEMBER FROM THE PRO-GOVT. WING OF THE PARTY, ARGUED FOR COOPERATION WITH THE PRESENT GOVT IN ORDER TO GET ON WITH THE DEVELOPMENT EFFORT.

3. TWO CHIEFS SPOKE, MAKING REQUESTS FOR MORE GOVERNMENT HELP, ESPECIALLY FOR SCHOOLS AND ROADS.

4. THE PRIMIN SAID THAT HE WOULD WORK ON THEIR REQUESTS AND THAT HE HOPED THEY WOULD PUT POLITICAL DIFFERENCES ASIDE AND WORK FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE COUNTRY.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MASERU 01523 150717Z

5. THE "LESOCHO WEEKLY" REPORTED THAT THE PRIMIN WAS WARMLY RECEIVED AND THAT THE PEOPLE HAD MADE ELABORATE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE VISIT. THE MEETING WAS GIVEN NEARLY THE WHOLE FRONT PAGE OF THE NEWSPAPER, MORE THAN ANY PREVIOUS MEETING.

6. COMMENT: THIS APPEARS TO BE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT MEETING OF

THE CURRENT ROUND OF RECONCILIATION "PITSOS". IT MAY ENCOURAGE THE PRIMIN TO SEEK RECONCILIATION IN OTHER STRONG OPPOSITION AREAS. NO TALK OF ELECTIONS WAS REPORTED. THESE MEETINGS ARE IN A SENSE THE PRIMIN'S FEASIBILITY STUDY OF ELECTION POSSIBILITIES. WE BELIEVE THAT, DEPENDING ON HIS FINDINGS, THE PRIMIN WILL ULTIMATELY DECIDE WHETHER TO GO TO ELECTIONS OR CONTINUE HIS SINGLE-HANDED BENIGN RULE.

STOKES

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X

Capture Date: 01 jan 1994

Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: MEETINGS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE

Draft Date: 14 jul 1978

Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960

Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Approved on Date:

Disposition Case Number: n/a

Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014

Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a

Disposition Reason:

Disposition Remarks:

Document Number: 1978MASERU01523

Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a

Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A

Expiration:

Film Number: D780291-1010

Format: TEL

From: MASERU

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780759/aaaabxuw.tel

Line Count: 70

Litigation Code IDs:

Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: f4fd9d73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION AF

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a

Original Previous Classification: n/a

Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED

Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 25 apr 2005

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a

Review Media Identifier:

Review Release Date: n/a

Review Release Event: n/a

Review Transfer Date:

Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2004661

Secure: OPEN

Status: NATIVE

Subject: RECONCILIATION MEETING

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, LT

To: STATE

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f4fd9d73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings:

Sheryl P. Walter

Declassified/Released

US Department of State

EO Systematic Review

20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014